

Lone Star Diplomat

No. 22

4 August 1982

79HT, 80KG, 81A/B/AU/CE, 82AM



HO'T Orphanage To Close Doors

A DipCon Alternative



79 HT Bluebonnet

A 1912

SULTANA, TSAR CONCEDE VICTORY
TO ANGLO-FRENCH WAR MACHINE

RUSS RUSNAK'S RUSNAKCON IV:

by Mark A. Luedi

3 LSD offers congratulations to Dave Ohlendorf (France) and Dick Martin (Germany) for their shored win. They will each receive 7 issues of sub credit to LSD. The two survivors, Bob Peacock (Russia) and Cynthia Ellis (Turkey) will get 5 issues of sub credit. Tony Auxier, the Italian player who was eliminated last season, will receive 3 issues. Thanks to everyone who made the war worth fighting. Endgame statements will be published next issue. (And by the way, thanks to Rob Londeros for submitting standby orders, even though they were not needed.)

A creak, a creak, another creak-creak, creak creak. The sound incessantly bore its way into my consciousness. Creak. Sight: closed curtains with daylight peeping through. My worst fears were confirmed. I was once again a tortured guest of the world's newest Diplunacy capital: Burbank, Illinois.

Oh, how my head reeked, my shoulder blades ached, my memory shuddered. CREAK. Not to mention my ears. I knew the source of the sound: Russ Rusnak's plush rocking chair (keeping to "true American" terminology). The chair sits over some weaker floorboards; I wondered who could be stirring there.

continued on page 9

LEGENDS THAT WON'T GO AWAY...



★ ROUNDUP of Texas & International News

Garfield



FLAGSHIP CONTROVERSY. The latest debate in Dippy circles concerns the place DIPLOMACY WORLD holds in the hobby. A quarterly zine published by Rod Walker, DW has been called the "flagship" of Dipdom. It has received recent criticism for printing material from a narrow segment of the hobby and for convincing John Leeder to give DW exclusive first publication rights to his polls. As to the former, that situation can be remedied quite easily and obviously. When a wider circle of writers begin to submit material, Rod won't be forced to print page after page of tactics articles by Mark Berch or "self-promoting" editorials by Larry Peery. The latter criticism is a tribute to Walker's (and DW's) reputation and persuasiveness. Who wouldn't try to get rights to the most widely respected polls? Another tempest in a teapot. DW is not the "flagship" of the hobby, and I understand that it no longer receives a subsidy from Avalon-Hill. It is a personal zine, unusual in its format and publishing frequency, and history. It is far from a prozine, which in my mind is what a "flagship" should be. But Rod is entitled to steer his own course and make DW over in his image. Everyone else in the hobby does that with their own zines. Why should DW be any different?

D&L FOLDS. It's been reported elsewhere, but I'd like to add my salute to Steve McLendon, who recently announced the transferral of all games formerly housed in his DRAGON & THE LAMB to Bob Sergeant's ST. GEORGE & THE DRAGON, with Jeff Richmond taking on the GM responsibilities. D&L was a prominent zine during its five years of publication, and Steve is highly respected as publisher, GM, player, and contributor to the welfare of the hobby. D&L was the home of some of my earliest postal games, and it will always be remembered fondly.

MILLS POLL. Voting is now open for the "Eminent Awards". These do not duplicate the Leeder Poll, but are instead modelled after Britain's "Gladys Awards". You can cast your ballot in 11 categories, the recipient with the highest number of votes receives the award. 1) Best Zine, 2) Best GM, 3) Best New Zine, 4) Best Improved Zine, 5) Best Zine for Diplomacy Games, 6) Best Zine for Other Games, 7) Best Variant Game, 8) Best Zine for Hobby News, 9) Best Looking Zine, 10) Best Letter Column, and 11) The Eminent Award for Distinguished Service (the person who has done the most and the best in helping to improve the hobby). Deadline for voting: September 4, 1982. Vote for only one candidate in each category. Mail you ballot to Mike Mills, 26 Laurel Rd., Sloatsburgh, NY 10974.

K-GAME SLATED. The following people are eligible to participate in LSD's eleventh game. Paul Milewski has already paid, and if Pond, Drews, Scheifler, Owen, Landeros, and Quinn would be so kind as to send me their \$10 gamefee by August 20, they will fill out the program. In case one or two of these folks decide to opt out, will Winter and Luedi indicate their willingness to play (send no money yet)? I'll notify the players as soon as I have seven confirmations. [Others on the waiting list for the L-game include Mayes, Tatsch, Nichols, Kovalcik, and Cannon, but this game will not open until two currently running games wind up.]

WHAT'S AHEAD. Only the Shadow knows for sure, but I intend to continue to publish LSD and open two more games at least. At that time there will be six games running, a level I think will be comfortable for me to handle. My involvement as a player has been diminishing and will continue to do so, although I may decide to enter a new game or two when things settle down in the fall. (It seems harder for me to devote a lot of time to correspondence when there is so much daylight in the summertime.) I have not lost interest in gaming or publishing, but my recent change in lifestyle has created unexpected, but not unwelcome, demands on my time, both social and work-related. One option that I am now considering for LSD is to decrease its size to eight pages when the gameload drops to six. This would be accompanied by a reduction in subfees if it is instituted. One factor in that decision will be the degree of participation by the readers in the submission of articles. If I have plenty of material to print, I would prefer to remain at the ten-page level, but that remains to be seen. Right now my file of articles is empty. Anyone want to contribute?

PHONE BIZNESS. Players seeking to phone in game orders will have the best luck in reaching me during morning hours on weekdays. My house is not air conditioned (I like it that way), so I'm in the habit of rising early, working while it's comparatively cool, and heading for the lake or the neighborhood swimming pool in the afternoon. Evenings are almost always reserved for play, too. I've been seeing a lot of the current movies (Tron, Star Trek II, E.T., Midsummer Night's Sex Comedy, Garp, among others, plus some classics and foreign films such as the Grant-Hepburn Philadelphia Story, the Brazilian film Dona Flor and Her Two Husbands, the modern German film Das Boot, and others), and I generally do not stick around home in the evenings.

1980 KG **Derrick** Summer 1908GM SCREWUP DELAYS WAR:
LOST ENGLISH FLEET LOCATED

% Because of the failure to indicate England's A Edi-LPL last time, one of the player's did not submit orders covering that contingency. He did ask me for information about that situation, but I did not realize it until it was too late to get in touch with him. Therefore, much as it distresses me, I must declare a delay in Derrick. Players will have one issue added to their sub credit. Larry McClaud is the new French player.

% Summer 1908: France retreats F Spa(sc)-Mid; Austria retreats F Ion-Gre.

% The concession to Austria was defeated.

% PRESS--

LVN DIPLOMATIC MONITOR: Successively and constantly let down by those thought to be sincere, the Russian armed forces have survived broken alliances and pressure from all quarters. Having been strengthened by the ordeal, they are returning home to regain strength and will once again grow to dominate all of Europe and Asia. In the interest of shortening an already overlong period of conflict, all powers are urged to concede in the face of the inevitable.

AUSTRIA-ITALY (EL ZAPPO): Congratulations, your brilliant strategic withdrawal from Venice was carried out in the best Italian tradition.

ITALY-AL & JACK: Even now, it may be too late to stop the Austrian. But if it's going to be done, it is up to you two to get things rolling in that direction.

ITALY-LSO: Remember all that press we were going to have here?

LSO: Uh...press?

1981 A **Enchanted Rock** F 1907KAISER PREDICTS WIN FOR TSAR AS
RUSSIAN EMPIRE EMBRACES ANATOLIA

% Concerned parties were notified that last season's orders for Austrian A SER-Bul and Russian A RUM-Ser actually failed.

% The concession to Russia was defeated again, but is again repropared. Please remember to vote.

% Summer 1907: Germany retreats A Tri-Ven.

FRANCE (William Owen?): NMR! A TUN & A TUS & A PIC & A BEL & F ENG & F LYO & F WES hold.

GERMANY (Jeff Noto): A HOL s French A Bel, A MUN-Ber, A KIE-Ber, A Vie-TRI (A VEN s).

ITALY (Guy Hall): F Trh-ROM, A Gre-BUL (F AEG s), F Ion-EAS.

AUSTRIA (Fred Winter): A Ank-Con [dsl, ann], A Bul s A Ank-Con [nsu], A SER u, h.

RUSSIA (Dan Stafford): A Bud-VIE (A Tri s [dsl, ret to Bud, Alb, Tya, or dsb]), A Syr-SMY (F CON s), A Arm-ANK (F BLA s), A RUM-Ser, A War-PRU, A Lvn-DEN (F BAL c), F Nth-HEL, F Nwy-NTH, A Wal-LON, F Iri-MID.

% COA: Fred C. Winter, PO Box 1305, Milwaukee, WI 53201.

% COA²: Dan Stafford, 215 Delhi, Apt. D, Calumburg, OH 43202.

SUPPLY CENTER STATUS for winter adjustments:

F: Home, Iberia, Bel, Tun	7/even
G: Home, Hol, Tri, VEN	6/build 1
I: Rom, Nap, Ven, Gre, BUL	4/even
A: Turkey, Ser	1/even (3 ann)
R: Home, Scandia, England,	
TURKEY, Bud, Vie, Rum, Bul	16/build 2

% Will Doug Beyerlein, 640 College Ave., Menlo Park, CA 94025, please submit standby orders for France?

% PRESS--

NOTO-WORLD: Face it, guys, Dan's won this game. From here on out it's every man for himself.

ITALY-GERMANY: Mix up your press again? I can't leave France alone while he persists in attacking me, despite my pleas that we need to attack Russia. Why don't you leave Russia alone in the same way you ask me to leave France alone.

GERMANY-ITALY: Sorry Guy, but it doesn't matter at this point anyhow.

NEW ALAMO: The Republic today broke off diplomatic relations with France. Treachery, double-dealing, and conspiring to aid Tsarism were given as the reasons.

G'VILLE-COLUMBUS: Congratulations, Dan. You deserve this victory. Could you please pull the knife out of my back now? I'm having trouble standing up.

STANDBY LIST. Please notify me if you want on or off this list. You come off automatically if you replace a player in a current game. Auzier, Beyerlein, Finley, Fritz, Fuss, Guajardo, Jurkowski, Kador, King, Larzelere, Milewski, Nichols, Noto, Pierce, Pond, Quinn, Ridenour, Scheifler, Schleinkofer, Sergeant, Tatsch, & Woodson.

Post Office of Texas

Dear Mike,

Gee, deadline time again. You've got the longest deadlines of my games, yet they seem to arrive faster.

A couple of things I omitted from my last letter: my cat's name is Carabella. I kept one kitten, named it Spinky. It's black with a reddish mane and interspersed white hairs. Carabella's really caused a lot of problems with my folks' cats; I'd never realized she was such a fierce and determined cat. About those warrants--they are for traffic "tickets", nothing criminal or anything. (Life is a drag sometimes, isn't it?)

Best regards, Mark Luedi
Rte. 1, Box 351D
Honor, MI 49640

The deadlines have been five weeks apart for the last several months, and I like it that way. I know that some players prefer faster games, but I found the faster four-week schedule was proving to be a burden to me. I believe that far games in early stages the five-week spacing allows better communication, but far those in games whose alliances have become static, it may be a bit slow. I apologize to those folks, but I feel it's better to slow down a bit than to burn out.

Mike,

Hang in there, guy! Your loyal subbers are behind you 100%!

Regards, Len Blasiol
2215 Adams St.
New Orleans, LA 70118

Thanks, Len. Comments like that help keep me going. I really appreciate the support. Wanna write an article?

Dear Mike,

I read in issue #20 that you mentioned your low NMR rate. I thought for a minute and then started to look for myself, even into back issues. Low isn't the word for it. You can be real proud of yourself from a GMing point of view. I don't know of any other zine with so few NMRs. Below is a quick list I made up from your past issues.

#	Moves	NMRs	NMR rate
1			
2			
3	20	1	.05
4	27	1	.037
5	41	1	.021
6	48	1	.02
7	48	1	.02
8	47	2	.042
9	54	0	-
10	61	0	-
11	59	5	.084
12	50	3	.06
13	55	2	.036
14	53	0	-
15	47	1	.021
16	45	2	.044
17	39	1	.025
18	35	1	.028
19	35	1	.028
20	42	0	-



You're doing a great job with LSD. Gave it a ten in the Leeder Poll. Hope that you can keep it up.

Best regards, Bryan Jurkowski
8 Ravencrest Chalet, PO Box 2620
Estes Park, CO 80517

Thanks for the compliment and the stats. I don't believe it has anything to do with my GMing, however. The relatively high gamefee probably attracts only very serious players. But your data show a low NMR rate even before the \$10 fee went into effect. Subfees have always been in the highest range of dipzines, though. Maybe that's a factor too. Whatever the reason, I really appreciate the efforts of the players who keep the games rolling.

Dear Mike:

Bill Quinn is correct in his comments regarding Fre(e)donia, but not the spelling. The Texan republic was spelled with one "e". It was a very brief affair, lasting from 16 December 1826 to 27 January 1827. The movie Freedonia was spelled with 2 "e"s. This was in fact the 2nd attempt to make the area independent. A prior rebellion at Nacogdoches proclaimed a "Republic of Tejas" in June 1819. I might add that I am as knowledgeable about real obscure places as I am about fictional ones. A native Mexican "Texas" was also proclaimed in San Antonio in 1813. The rebellious "Republic of Anahuac" also began in Texas (1813-1815). The State of Texas also proclaimed itself a Republic in 1861 prior to joining in the Slaveholders' Rebellion. Santa Ana obviously was not wrong in being suspicious of the area.

Bell Schilling is right about the other two "Mouse" novels; I ran across them myself only recently. I've not seen a copy of Wall Street; it and Beware are both long out of print. However, Beware at least has been reprinted (Borgo Press, PO Box 2845, San Bernardino, CA 92406, Cover price \$3.95). Since Beware

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The PUZZLER

Whitt Pond's trivia quiz brought more entries than any other puzzler ever printed in LSD. Doug Tatsch wins the two free issues for his exhaustive and correct response, printed here. Len Blasiol also gets two freebies for correct answers. Congratulations to the two of you.

1. Famous horses in history: Traveler was R. E. Lee's famous steed during the Civil War. Comanche was Captain Myles W. Keogh's horse, the lone survivor of Custer's Last Folly at the Little Big Horn River in 1876. Although wounded 7 times (3 seriously--in the neck, lung, and groin), he survived to the age of 30, dying of colic at Ft. Riley, Kansas, on Nov. 9, 1893. He is currently embalmed and on display at the University of Kansas. Bucephalus was the war horse of Alexander the Great. In lower case form, bucephalus, a noun, refers to "a riding horse, especially if spirited and mettlesome--often used ironically". Incitatus [note spelling] is the beloved horse of Caligula, Roman Emperor from 37 to 41 AD. The horse was made a consul of the Empire and was supplied with a marble manger, ivory stall, gold drinking goblet, furniture, and a retinue of slaves. Caligula was known to hold parties at which Incitatus was the host.

2. This is a considerably edited phrase from a speech given by William Tecumseh Sherman to a group of Union veterans at Columbus, Ohio, on August 11, 1880. What he really said was, "There is many a boy here today who looks on war as all glory, but boys, it is all hell. You can bear this warning voice to generations yet to come. I look upon war with horror, but if it has to come I am here." Another phrase he actually wrote down during the Civil War was perhaps more to the point, "War is cruelty, and you cannot refine it."

Honorable mention (but no prize) goes to Dick Martin and to Terry Sutor, who supplied the following answers:

Dick: 1) All of them are spaceships to be built in the late 23rd century and explore the Crab Nebula. 2) PFC James Langdon as a Panzer IV bore down on him during the Battle of the Bulge.

Terry: The four items in #1 are all travel trailers or the like....The best thing General Sherman said was, "If I am nominated for President, I won't run, and if I am elected, I will leave the country", or something like that.

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To underscore their interest in trivia, two more LSD readers sent in quizzes. I'll save Rod Walker's until next time. Here is a nautical trivia quiz from Peter Ansoff. The best answers will receive three issues of LSD.

1. Each of the following ships participated in a famous naval engagement: Virginia, Macedonian, Amagiri, Pallas, U-29, Conqueror, and Natividad. Name the opposing ship in each case.

2. HM Destroyer Sheffield, recently sunk in the Falklands war, had an experimental funnel design known as "Loxton Bends". What is the only other ship of the class to have this feature?

3. What was the largest-caliber gun ever mounted on a) an aircraft carrier and b) a submarine, and what ships were involved?

4. In the WWII era, US fleet carriers were named after battles and famous USN ships of the past. There were three exceptions. Two of the three, Franklin D. Roosevelt and Wright, had names whose sources were self-explanatory. What was the third exception, and what was the story behind her name? (n.b. Rod Walker is ineligible to answer this one!)



No one correctly identified the language and the motto printed on the button shown left above. Since Al Giddings was the only one to try, and since he came close, I'll give him the prize of one issue of LSD, and his answer is printed below.

To make things more interesting, I'll add another button for a reward of two free issues for correctly identifying both languages and both slogans.

At first glance I thought it Swedish but could not seem to translate *bedre*. Swedish *bedro* means deceit, but this didn't fit into *En tand*, meaning "a tooth". Since Norwegian, Icelandic, and Danish all resemble one another, I'm sure the language is Scandinavian; which I don't know. Swedish *värk* means "ache", but this isn't close enough to resemble any of the other languages. *Bättre*, on the other hand, means "better" and I guess could resemble *bedre*, say in one of the other languages. I'll guess the language as Norwegian and the translation "One tooth better", whatever that means.

This month there are two Stars: Andy Lischett for the one shown at left, and James Woodson for the North Star which accompanies his article on another page. Each gets one issue equivalent (doesn't anyone want any of these dumb bumperstickers anymore?) for the star, and James also gets three for his article.



81 B **Friendship** S 1908

GERMANY REACHES ATLANTIC WATER,
BUT EASTERN PROGRESS HALTED

% Thanks to Jim Finley, whose standby orders were not needed.

% Winter 1907: Italy removes F Tun; Austria builds A Bud; Turkey builds F Con.

ENGLAND (Bryan Jurkowski): F Wal-IRI, F Yor-LON, F EDI cleans up (h).

GERMANY (George Cunningham): F Eng-MID, F Nth-ENG, F Hol-NTH, F Nwy-NWG, A Bel-BUR (A MUN s), A SIL & A BER s A Mun, A WAR s A Sil, A Pic-PAR, A MOS-Sev (A UKR s), A STP-Mos.

ITALY (Paul Goodrich): F ADR-Ion (F TRH s), F Wes-TUN.

AUSTRIA (Art Schleinkofer): F GRE s Turkish F Aeg-Ion, A BUD-Gal, A GAL-Ukr, A BOH s A Tyo, A TYO s A Boh, A Tri-VEN, A Ven-PIE, A Mar-SPA.

TURKEY (Mike Drews): F Con-BLA, A ARM-Sev, A Bul-RUM, A Rom-TUS, F Nap-ROM, F Ion-NAP, F AEG-Ion.

% COA: Mike Drews, Libby Hall #63, Boulder, CO 80310.

% COA²: George Cunningham (whot, ogoin?), 64B Moin St., Essex Jct. VT 05452.

% Please vote on o proposed GAT draw with your foll orders. NVR = yes!

% PRESS--

LON-BER: The King today stated in front of the masses that he "has seen the light". That his foreign policy will from now on be on the basis of Friendship. He has instructed his navy to continue cleaning up the North Sea and has now sent another fleet to clean up the Irish Sea.

BERLIN: The Kaiser was very much pleased with the avalanche of mail received this past season. If this continues, perhaps it will be possible for peace on earth and goodwill to man. To this the Kaiser says, Praise the Lord!!

LON-INFIDELS: The King of England has chosen the side of Christendom. The cry of "Crusade Again!" is ringing throughout the kingdom.

BERLIN-NONBELIEVERS: Repent, Repent, the end is near. It will do you no good to gain control of Europe if you lose your soul. Remember, there are no air conditioners in Hell!

LON-ROM: At least this way I might survive, don't know about you. But there's always room for the Pope in London. (Who is the Pope anyway?)



81AU **Horned Toad** S 1906

LIMEYS BEEF UP MED PRESENCE
AS FRENCH GENERALS SURRENDER

% Winter 1905: England builds A Lon; France NBR, GM removes F Wes; Germany removes F Lvn; Italy builds F Nop; Turkey builds A Ank & F Smy.

ENGLAND (Allen King): F Stp-NWY, F Nwg-NTH, F BEL h, A Lon-BRE (F ENG c), F Mid-WES (F NAF s), F Gas-MID, A SPA s German A Bur-Mar.

FRANCE (CD): F LYO h.

GERMANY (Bill Quinn): F Pru-BAL, A Sil-BOH, A Bur-MAR, A Pie-TUS, A Tyo-PIE, A Mun-TYO, A UKR s Austrian A Gal-Rum, A MOS-Sev.

ITALY (John Koehler): A Rom-VEN, F Nap-TRH (F TUN s).

AUSTRIA (Ted Kuhn): A GAL-Rum, A WAR-Gal, A Bud-SER, A VIE-Bud.

TURKEY (Glenn Sherrill): A TRI-Bud (A RUM s F Smy-AEG, F ALB-Tri (F ADR s), A BUL s A Rum, A SEV s A Rum, F BLA s A Sev, A Ank-ARM.

% Please vote on o proposed E-G draw concession with your foll orders. NVR = yes.

% PRESS--

LONDON-ICELAND: In a surfeit of caution, the 1st Sea Lord has ordered a first-level alert for all HM ships operating in waters north of Scotland. All tuna boats are to be stopped, while the latest rumors regarding the "Yellow Submarine" incident are unravelled. London markets reported soaring tuna prices as HM ships have been given orders to sink on sight (SOS) all tuna vessels demonstrating suspicious qualities or behavior. Many casualties are expected despite the Navy's well-known penchant for calm reserve. The 1st Sea Lord was heard to remark, "Submersibles, they want submersibles (ha! ha! snicker, snort!). The English Navy has been making submersibles of our enemies' navies for centuries (uproarious laughter!). Ours is a tradition of victory! (loud, prolonged cheering).

ROM-LON: Why do you continue to insist that I do not write to you? Perhaps I have had your address wrong, but I think it more likely that you do not open mail you don't wish to receive.

CONSTANTINOPLE: The senile Sultan Milquetoast the Mild was gently reminded by his close advisors that he does not have a son, Machiavellian or otherwise.

LON-CON: Well played, Glenn. You have again shown the Sultan's might to the world. We lift our cups in salute to your ability and courage. Despite the fact that we must be open enemies, HM has authorized me to say that no nation, no matter how great or humble, could face a more valorous and capable foe than you.

ROM-?: To the author of the "Italian" letter which promised to throw "all my units at Turkey", try to be a little more original next time.

CON-ROM: OK by me.

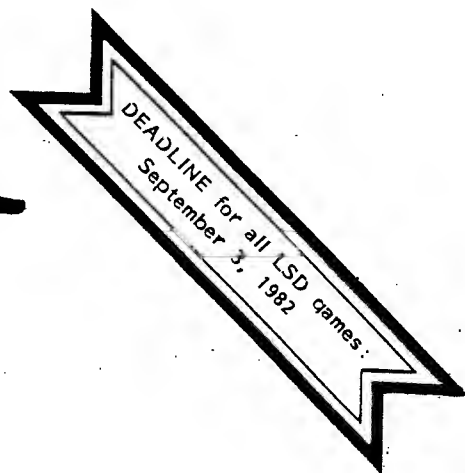
LON-VIE: Well done; may your tribe prosper.

ROM-EUROPE: The Italian government announced today a new fundraising effort for defense. All visitors to the eternal city will be required to throw the traditional three coins in the fountain.

CON-VIE: Yes, it was rather clumsy and stupid, but as a novice I'm still learning.

ROM-EUROPE (continued): However, now only krugers will be accepted.

LON-BER: We march; we march!



1981 CE Independence W 1905

FOCUS OF WAR SHIFTS TO LAND
AS NEW TROOPS RAISED ASHORE

§ Autumn 1905: Germany retreats A Bur-Mar;
Austria retreats A Ser-Ukr.

ENGLAND (Joe Gallagher): Has F LPL. (1).
FRANCE (Jim Meinel): Builds A BER; also has A KIE,
A MUN, A TYO, A PIC, A YOR, F NTH, & F ENG (8).

FRANCE (Jim Meinel): Has A BUR, A PAR, F BRE,
& F MID (4).

GERMANY (Don Scheifler): Builds A BER; also has
A KIE, A MUN, A TYO, A PIC, A YOR, F NTH,
F ENG, & A MAR (9).

ITALY (Doug Tatsch): Removes F Nap; has F ION,
F WES, A PIC, & A GAS (4).

AUSTRIA (Len Blasol): Has A BUD, A SER,
F ADR, & A UKR (4).

RUSSIA (Jeff Albrecht): Builds A STP; also has
A NWY, A MOS, A WAR, A GAL, A SEV (6).

TURKEY (Mike Blanchard): Builds A SMY; also has
A BUL, F CON, F AEG, F GRE, & A RUM (6).

§ COA: Doug Tatsch, 903-B Ethel, Austin, TX
78704.

§ PRESS--

VIENNA: Angry crowds gathered outside the Imperial winter palace today, demanding the head of Field Marshal Holzwig-Schleistein der Idiotte in response to the recent debacle in the Balkans. The Emperor produced the Marshal's skull from which he had been eating goulash, and he dropped it over the balcony to the crowd below.

MUNICH-LOST AUSTRIAN TROOPS: Just click your heels together and say, "There's no place like home."
LVP-MUN: Two more years or three...getting expensive, isn't it?

ROM-EVERYBODY: The split-season break came at just the right time--I am moving right now and haven't had time to answer your letters. Be assured that I have read them all, will consider them carefully, and will get responses to you as soon as I can.

UKRAINE: Following a visit to the recently routed A Rum, the Emperor announced that he would personally take command of Austro-Hungarian forces in the field. All officers of A Rum are to be shipped to re-education camps in the eastern region of our Russian ally's vast homeland. All NCOs will, in the Emperor's words, "spend the night in the box."

MUN-HOWDY DOODY: Would you consider a change of puppet-masters? I'd give you a whole new set of strings and let you travel with me to see the sights of France.

ENGLAND-FRANCE: Does Italy get Iberia after all is said and done?

ROM-EVERYBODY II: Five game years completed and just look at what we've created. I'm not exactly sure what it is, but I prefer to stand upwind from it.

NOLA-INDEPENDENTS: Alas, no one is more shocked and dismayed over my wretched blunder than myself. You see, I had just finished reading the farcical Jalapeño game and it must've dulled my senses. I just couldn't stop thinking about a press item I saw over there concerning the political alignment of a certain province found on our delightful playing board. Very strange indeed!!

ROM-MOS: I appreciate the letter and apologize for not yet getting a reply to you. However, I am puzzled by the optimistic tone you used in reference

to my position in the game--are we looking at the same map?

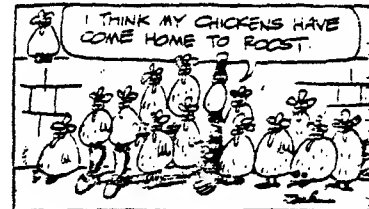
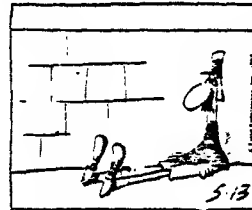
CHUMP-PAR: Who needs luck when help is forced upon him?

VIE-ROM, BER, MOS: Sorry for the silence. The high command is immobile with shock; be back in action soon.

ROM-VIE: Well, I haven't heard from you as I had hoped. Does this mean I have to worry about you, too?

MUN-V.O.E.: Have you ever seen a derailment? It can be pretty messy.

Crock



POST OFFICE continued from page 4

recounts the origins and early history of Grand Fenwick it should be of interest to Mouseketeers. Incidentally, it must be pronounced "Fennick".

There is a period source which refers to the reigns of "good King Elizabeth and good Queen James". James I wasn't "raging", but was fairly obvious, I guess. Also repulsive. But being King makes up for a lot. This is something fairly common in the royal family: Richard I, Edward I, one of the Georges (IV, I believe), and a number of non-reigning princes. There are also rumors about certain living members of the family.

Best, Rod Walker
1273 Crest Drive
Encinitas, CA 92024

Thanks for all the good info, Rod. Did you know that the East Texas town is pronounced without the "g": NockaDochiz?

Dear Mike,

Thanks for the plug [of DAMN THE TORPEDOS], but I assure you I'm all here. I am a very versatile person, and I get tired of seeing my name spelled the same way all the time. Whether or not I use one or two gs depends on how I feel at the time. If I feel creative then two gs are used, but if I feel technical then one is in order. Does it matter if my name is spelled with one g or two? I think the important thing is I am who I am. People appreciate me for me and not how my name is spelled!

I found it kind of interesting that TS, LSD, and DtT all were printed on the same shade of blue. I don't know if you get TS, but I have included a copy of DtT so you can see just what I am talking about. It just goes to show you that the top three zines ought to stay together!!

G. Fritz, PO Box 512
York, ME 03909

But I appreciate you for you and also for the way your name is spelled!

MINNESOTA'S NATIONAL SPORT

A Cool Breeze written & illustrated by James Woodson

When I moved from sunny San Diego to attend the University of Minnesota in the Twin Cities 2½ years ago, I expected it to be different.

The weather, I was sure, would be brutal, compared to that of my hometown in southern California. In this I was correct.

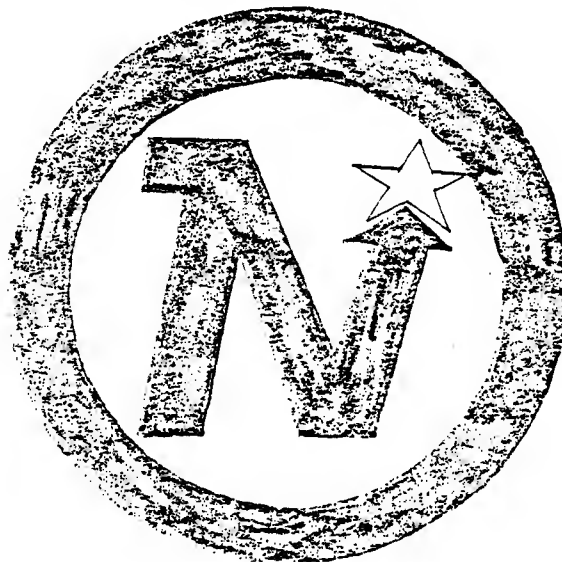
The people would not be the same, but the change was not great, and I have not detected any thick accents in Minneapolis and St. Paul. One thing, however, that I did not foresee was the popularity of ice hockey.

In San Diego there was a minor league professional team in the 60s and early 70s, and after that a WHA team for a while before both the team and the league folded. There is also a youth hockey program, but it's not really popular. There is, however, no high school program and only a single collegiate team (USIU, the team is almost exclusively Canadian). This is no real surprise considering the weather.

Minnesota is completely different. Starting with the youngsters, almost every neighborhood has a rink or lake, and just about every kid grows up on skates. This breeds a large youth program. All this talent feeds the best high school hockey in the nation. Imagine watching a high school football or basketball game, and compare the quality of play to a college game. You'll probably notice a big difference. Now, when I saw a high school hockey game here they did not seem to be much less skilled than what I had seen of the University team (and the Gophers are one of the best in the country). In short, these kids are good!

Collegiate hockey in the Midwest is the best in the country. The last two NCAA crowns have gone to North Dakota and Wisconsin. The runners-up were Wisconsin and Minnesota. I'm not sure who won the title farther back in the past, but Minnesota won three national titles in the 70s.

On the professional scene, the North Stars have become one of the NHL's better teams (they were the Stanley Cup runner-up last year). When their games are televised many students here in the dorm are watching. The lounges are packed during the play-offs. Even a southern California boy can't help but

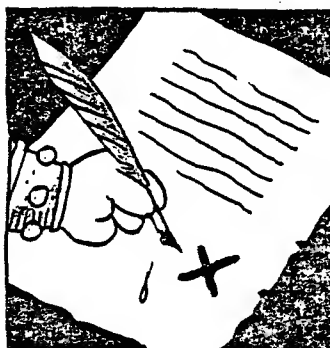


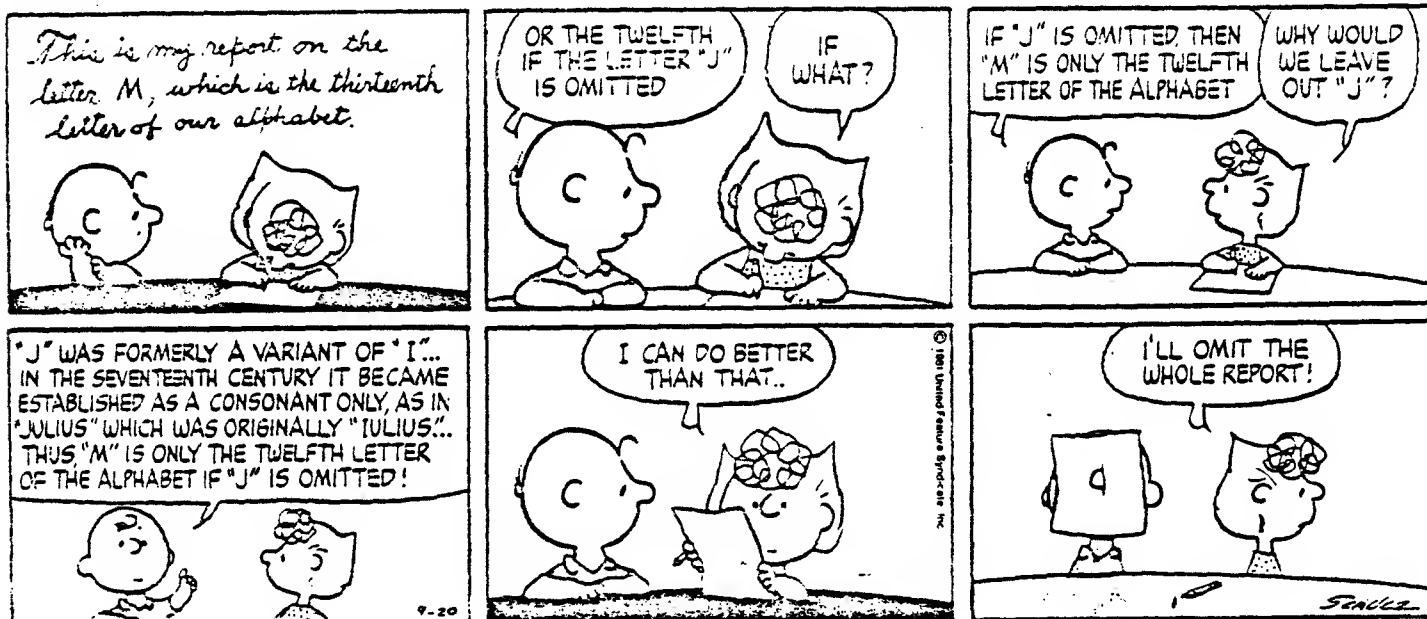
be a fan.

One more team that most of you have seen is the US Olympic team in 1980. The Gold Medal winners were coached by University of Minnesota coach Herb Brooks (now with the New York Rangers), and I believe at least ten of the players were Minnesotans.

Going back to high school hockey, I'd like to wrap up with one more illustration. The sport is so popular here that the state high school hockey tournament (all eight games) are televised here, with the final in prime time. (For those who are wondering, this year's winner was Edina).

Two years ago the Gophers were playing a WCHA playoff game here, and the game was scheduled in the afternoon, because the high school tourney final was being played that night on a different ice. The University knew that attendance would be down if they had to compete with the high school game!





RUSNAKCON IV continued from page 1

My eyes and then head slowly moved to discern Paul Rauterberg on Russ's rocker, snuggled up in embryonic form. Behind slept James Wall of Madison, Wisconsin. How anyone could sleep eight hours at a con is beyond me. He managed it. Groping my way to the bathroom, Bill Becker was found, alive and awake; he looked like he hadn't even been to the con, but his gastronomic tales (endlessly) confessed his participation.

Cons (in this case, micro-cons) never really manifest themselves on a person quite the manner as with the morning-after-staying-all-night-wake-up-roll-call. Mornings aren't the greeting at the door, the games, the travelling, the beer, the munchies, the hours and hours. Mornings are the numbness that comes from all of those; your mind feels like puking, and your body wants to slide into oblivion. No, cons don't start with the morning after; neither do they end with the final knife or the return to asphalt, rubber, home, and reality.

I awoke at 6 am, and with my aunt in tow, I hopped in my faithful (and very exhausted) Pinto. My destination? Kalamazoo, Michigan, home of Bill Becker. He would drive the rest of the way to Burbank; we'd drop off my aunt on the way. Bill is an admirable cotraveller. Even though we arrive at the Rusnak residence late, we are the first to arrive. Followed shortly by James Wall and Mark Freuh, and shortly again by Paul Rauterberg. Marc Peters (another Badger state resident) would arrive in another 45 minutes. This is the roster, then: an even seven.

I don't think anyone has described the Rusnak estate in much detail. It's a small two-story affair, made large by having many little rooms and by being a maze to walk through (I got lost my first time there), furnished in nothingness, and with a smiling conservative for a butler. The lawn is carefully manicured to an eight-inch height; the traditional wreck in the driveway is a Buick Skylark (the garage reveals a Dodge Aspen). The refrigerator is my favorite curiosity at Russ's. It's interesting: every time I visit it to see if there's anything in there, anything new, that is, besides six or seven cases of Old Style (attention: Bob Osuch!!!), a generous supply of soda, and a bottle of catsup. There were some new things this time, but Russ had excuses for all of it.

Game numero uno was wild, exceedingly: one of the best I've ever played ftf, if not the best. Having

originally drawn Italy, Marc agreed to trade it for Turkey; James drew Russia, Billy Austria, Mark England, Rauterberg Germany; our host played the French.

I have little notion of western events other than Rusnak building three in 1901 because of miswritten English orders. I initially allied with Russia. Italy took Tri in the spring, and I bounced Becker out of Ser. From there things got a little crazed. With Rauterberg moving east and negotiations going well with Italy, I decided to move north. Mistake. In the meantime, Becker is making and breaking deals with everyone. Soon, so is every one else in the east. By 1903 there are no alliances in the east, no trust; insanity prevails. Rauterberg and I joined up in Russia, but then didn't do anything. EFGR continue to fight in the west. The only ones not fighting are FI, and they're beginning to creep across the board. A GERT effort to halt things is sabotaged by Freuh, and Rusnak gets England. Rauterberg's holed up in northern Russia. Becker, having still survived, works on Italian leftovers. I take Tunis, but can't hold onto it in the face of the French. Rusnak's at 17! Before fall 1908 orders are read, we find that Stp cannot be held. Rauterberg and I are outnumbered by French fleets, and the unnameable has happened: Rusnak wins.

Game two was anticlimactic. I drew Russia this time with Freuh as Turkey, Rauterberg as Austria, Wall as Germany, Rusnak as Italy, Peters as France, and Becker as England. Freuh, Rat, and Wall combine to give me -1 builds for 1901 (Turkey got three). Sucked right in, I was. I did manage to get two builds in 1902, yea! As the result of a five-way conference, AT are stopped cold, but Becker and I obliterate Germany anyway. Kind Bill keeps me alive for a while, then does me in in 1907. FE are working well together; Freuh finally stabs Rat, and a three-way is agreed upon: EFT. GIR all bite the dust in this one. I think Paul survives with three. (I don't have SC charts; that's why they're not here.)

The next day we played Cosmic Encounter before heading our ways home. A good sound meal at a Kalamazoo steakhouse returned some sanity to my body. Thanks for hosting, Russ. I enjoyed seeing all you fellows again. I had a great time. My only regret? No closed circuit of the happenings in Baltimore.



1982 AM

JALAPEÑO

W 1901

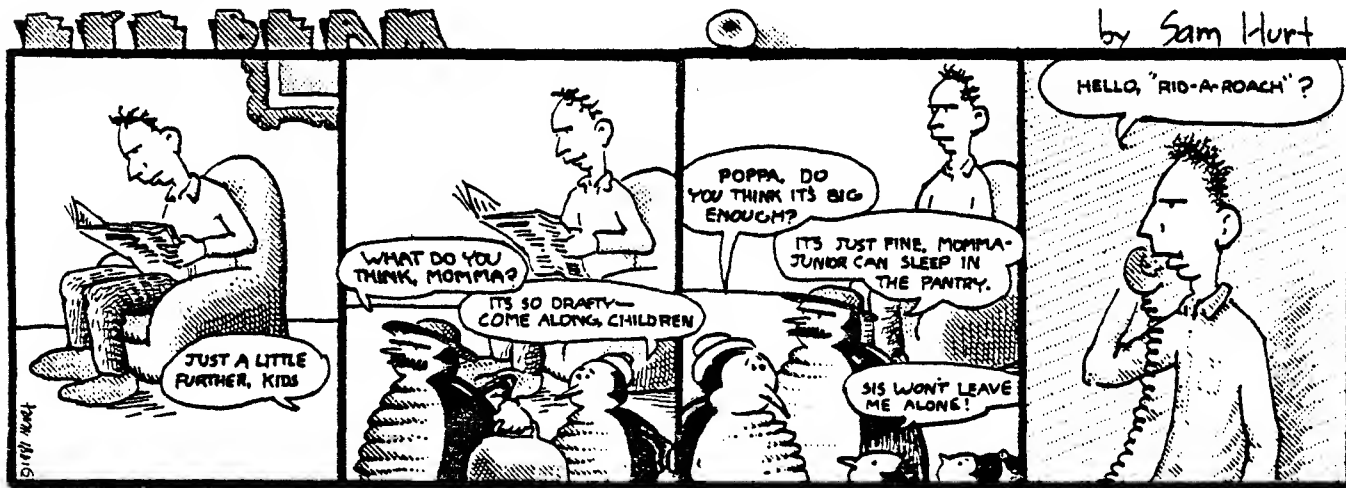
FRANCE SULKS IN SPAIN; IBERIA
BECKONS TO ITALY & ENGLAND

ENGLAND (David Pierce): Builds F LON & A EDI;
also has F BRE, A BEL, & F NTH (5).
FRANCE (CD): NBR! GM removes F Mid & A Pic;
still has A SPA (1).
GERMANY (Terry Sutor): Builds A MUN & A KIE;
also has A DEN, A BUR, & F HOL (5).
ITALY (Greggg Fritz): Builds A VEN & F NAP;
also has F TUN, A MAR, & A PIE (5).
AUSTRIA (Bryan Jurkowski): Builds A VIE &
A BUD; also has A GAL, A SER, & F GRE (5).
RUSSIA (Richard Kovalcik?): Has A WAR, A UKR,
F SEV, & F BOT (4).
TURKEY (Jim Lawniczak): Builds F CON; also has
F BLA, A RUM, & A ARM (4).

§ Because of pressures in the real world, Joe
Gallagher has resigned. Will Richard Kovalcik
assume the Russian position?

§ PRESS--

AUSTRIA-TSAR: I can't believe you're quitting
already. Come on, I was just starting to like you.
LON-BER: Though misdirected, your support is
appreciated. Reciprocation is imminent.
AUSTRIA-BERLIN: Sure, I'll take your support,
how about supporting me into Warsaw, or even Paris?
You can convoy me over Munich!
AUSTRIA-WEST: Gee, this is the first time I played
a variant. I don't think I like these variants in which
no one plays France.
LSD-AUSTRIA: And according to a clumsy typist in
last issue we found out that Galicia is Australian!
AUSTRIA-GM: The Frenchman was from Austin no
less!
GM-AUSTRIA: No more!
LON-PAR: Without your cooperation things would
have been touch and go. Thanks for everything.
MUN-VIE: I saw Star Trek II, but I don't remember
any Aardmadillo in that flick.



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